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March 9, 2005

TO:

Commissioner for Patents

Attn: Examiner K. Jastrzab

P.O. Box 1450

Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

FROM:

Mara E. Liepa

OUR REF:

163.1385Us01

TELEPHONE:

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Total pages, including cover letter:

<u>29</u>

PTO FAX NUMBER 1-703-872-9306

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Title of Document Transmitted:

Amendment under 37 C.F.R. 1.116

Applicant:

Swart et al.

Serial No.:

09/844,965 April 27, 2001

Filed:

Group Art Unit: 1744

Our Ref. No.:

163.1385US01

Confirmation No. 1666

Rales

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Name: Mara E. Liepa

Reg. No.: 40,066

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Rebecca Ralls

Signature

Date

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RESPONSE UNDER 37 C.F.R. 1.116 EXPEDITED PROCEDURE EXAMINING GROUP 1700

S/N 09/844,965

PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant:

SWART ET AL.

Examiner:

K. JASTRZAB

Serial No.:

09/844,965

Group Art Unit:

1744

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02/01/1,303

Group Wit Cilli

Filed:

APRIL 27, 2001

Docket No.:

163.1385US01

Confirmation No.:

1666

Title:

SYSTEM AND METHOD FOR CLEANING, HIGH LEVEL

DISINFECTION, OR STERILIZATION OF MEDICAL OR DENTAL

INSTRUMENTS OR DEVICES

CERTIFICATE UNDER 37 CFR 1.6(d):

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being transmitted via facsimile to: Mail Stop AF, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on March 9, 2005.

By Run Rule

AMENDMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. 1.116

Mail Stop AF Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

In response to the final Office Action mailed December 21, 2004, please amend the above-identified application as follows. Applicants contend that this amendment should be entered, at it will place the claims in form for allowance.

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims that begins on page 2.

Remarks begin on page 24 of this paper.